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GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fifty-first session
Agenda items 33, 35 and 85
THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST
QUESTION OF PALESTINE
REPORT OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE TO INVESTIGATE ISRAELI PRACTICES AFFECTING THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE AND OTHER ARABS OF THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-second year

Letter dated 4 April 1997 from the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I wish to refer to the letter addressed to you from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of Israel to the United Nations on 21 March 1997 (A/51/839-S/1997/243), in which some senseless assertions were made. The assertions in that letter, in addition to those made by various other Israeli officials, are not only irresponsible and dangerous fabrications, but they seem to indicate once more a desire on the part of the Israeli Government to find a way out of the peace process and the existing agreements reached within the context of that process.

I should also like to draw your attention to the fact that the Israeli Government continues to carry out countless destructive actions and measures, the last of which was the recent approval by the Defence Minister of even more settlement activities in the occupied Palestinian territory.

It is clear that statements such as the above-mentioned, and Israel's continuing violation of international law, United Nations resolutions and the agreements reached, through its pursuit of such policies and actions, serve only to erode and undermine the peace process and threaten its very existence. At this stage, the peace process cannot be salvaged without the complete cessation of such illegal Israeli actions.

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of the present letter distributed as a document of the fifty-first session of the General Assembly, under items 33, 35 and 85, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nasser AL-KIDWA
Permanent Observer of Palestine to
the United Nations

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SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-second year

Letter dated 4 April 1997 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Kuwait to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

In my capacity as Chairman of the Arab Group for the month of April 1997 and on behalf of the States members of the League of Arab States, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a copy of resolution 107/5629, entitled "The Arab-Israeli conflict and Israel's sabotage of the ongoing peace process", which was adopted by the Council of the League of Arab States at its one hundred and seventh regular session on 31 March 1997.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 33, 35 and 85, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Ali Sulaiman R. AL-SAEID
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

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ANNEX

Resolution adopted by the Council of the League of Arab States at its one hundred and seventh session on 31 March 1997

THE ARAB-ISRAELI CONFLICT AND ISRAEL'S SABOTAGE OF THE ONGOING PEACE PROCESS

The Council of the League of Arab States,

Having considered the latest developments and imminent dangers and the obstacles raised by Israel with a view to sabotaging the ongoing peace process,

Being committed to the achievement of a just and comprehensive peace in the region and to salvaging the peace process,

RECOMMENDS:

1. That the steps taken towards normalization with Israel in the framework of the ongoing peace process should be halted, and that dealings with Israel should be suspended, together with closure of offices and missions, until such time as Israel complies with the terms of reference of the Madrid Conference and the principle of land for peace and implements the agreements, undertakings and commitments reached by the parties concerned, on all tracks, during the peace talks;

2. That Arab participation in the multilateral negotiations should be suspended, and that commitment to the Arab boycott should be maintained in the forefront and should be kept in effect vis-à-vis Israel until such time as a just and comprehensive peace is achieved in the region.

Resolution 107/5629
One hundred and seventh regular session
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SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-second year

Letter dated 4 April 1997 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Kuwait the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

In my capacity as Chairman of the Arab Group for the month of April 1997 and on behalf of the States members of the League of Arab States, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a copy of resolution 107/5630, entitled "Settler colonialism in the occupied Palestinian territory", which was adopted by the Council of the League of Arab States at its one hundred and seventh regular session on 31 March 1997.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 33, 35 and 85, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Ali Sulaiman R. AL-SAEID
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

ANNEX

Resolution adopted by the Council of the League of Arab States at its one hundred and seventh session on 31 March 1997

SETTLER COLONIALISM IN THE OCCUPIED PALESTINIAN TERRITORY

The Council of the League of Arab States,

Having considered:

The note by the Secretariat concerning settler colonialism in the occupied Palestinian territory;

The recommendation made by the Conference of Arab Officials Responsible for Palestinian Affairs in the Host Countries at its fifty-seventh session;

Its previous resolutions and the relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

The recommendation of the Political Affairs Committee,

Having been informed of the expansionist plans of the Israeli authorities, the expropriation of land, the escalation of settlement activity and the statements of Israeli leaders calling for the expansion of settlements,

DECIDES:

1. To affirm that the resolutions embodying international legitimacy must be implemented, in particular Security Council resolution 465 (1980) calling upon Israel to halt all settlement activity and to dismantle the existing settlements; and to affirm that settlement activities are in violation of the Geneva Conventions and the Madrid framework and constitute an impediment to the peace process;

2. To reject and condemn all Israeli settlement practices, especially the latest plan for settlement at Jabal Abu Ghneim; and to warn against the consequences of pursuing this policy, which is having a serious impact on the peace process and threatening to destroy it;

3. To urge the international community and all States providing economic and financial assistance to Israel, in particular the United States and the countries of the European Union, as well as the international donor institutions and funds, to halt assistance that is used by Israel to implement settlement plans in the occupied Palestinian territory;

4. To support and endorse the measures taken by the competent authorities of the State of Palestine to form popular local committees to defend Palestinian land and counter Israeli violations;

5. To affirm the need to implement League Council resolution 5582 on the convening, in the second half of 1997, of an international seminar on settlement activity highlighting the dangerous character of the underlying concepts and practical implications of Israeli settler colonialism.

Resolution 107/5630
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SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-second year

Letter dated 4 April 1997 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Kuwait to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

In my capacity as Chairman of the Arab Group for the month of April 1997 and on behalf of the States members of the League of Arab States, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a copy of resolution 107/5628, entitled "Question of Jerusalem", which was adopted by the Council of the League of Arab States at its one hundred and seventh regular session on 31 March 1997.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 33, 35 and 85, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Ali Sulaiman R. AL-SAEID
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

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ANNEX

Resolution adopted by the Council of the League of Arab States at its one hundred and seventh session on 31 March 1997

QUESTION OF JERUSALEM

The Council of the League of Arab States,

Having considered:

The note by the General Secretariat concerning Jerusalem;

The resolutions of the Arab Summit Conferences;

Its previous resolutions on Jerusalem; and

The recommendation of the Political Affairs Committee,

Affirming the importance of the status of the City of Jerusalem as the core of the Palestine issue,

Recalling the resolutions of the United Nations and its specialized agencies relating to the status of the Holy City,

Bearing in mind that the provisions of the present resolution will serve as a programme of action for the General Secretariat of the League of Arab States and for the presidency of the Council,

DECIDES:

1. To affirm the Arab character of Jerusalem; to uphold the presence of the existing national institutions there and the right of representatives of States to visit Orient House; and to urge the reopening of the institutions closed by the occupation authorities;

2. To urge the States that are the co-sponsors of the peace process to bring pressure to bear on Israel to comply with the relevant United Nations resolutions and primarily Security Council resolutions 252 (1968) and 476 (1980), in which the Council considers the measures taken by Israel in the City of Jerusalem to be invalid;

3. To take action to have a session of the General Assembly convened to consider the issue of settlement activity in Jerusalem on the basis of the "Uniting for peace" formula; and to request the United Nations and the relevant international bodies to bring pressure to bear on Israel to lift the siege on the City, to allow Palestinian citizens, Muslims and Christians, to perform their religious rites and to halt the excavations that threaten the Al-Aqsa Mosque;

4. To safeguard the Arab presence in the City of Jerusalem; and to provide support of every kind to Arab citizens in Jerusalem and its Arab environs by establishing productive enterprises, implementing housing programmes and promoting Arab construction activities in the City in order to achieve an Arab majority there;

5. To condemn the Israeli Government in the strongest terms for its decision to begin construction on Jewish settlements in the heart of Jerusalem (in Ras al-Amud and at Jabal Abu Ghneim); and to regard that action as a violation of the agreements concluded in the framework of the peace process and as constituting open defiance of international legitimacy and a breach of all the relevant United Nations resolutions;

6. To urge the Arab States that had begun to establish relations with Israel to take all possible countermeasures, including the closure of offices and missions, until such time as Israel complies with the agreements concluded between it and the Palestine Liberation Organization and abides by the United Nations resolutions relating to the question of Palestine and, in particular, the question of Jerusalem;

7. To condemn such practices of the Israeli forces as the demolition of the homes and shelters of the Jahalin Bedouin, the seizure of their lands and their eviction for the expansion of the Maaleh Adumim settlement established on their property;

8. To welcome the statement issued by the European Union condemning the decision of the Israeli Government to approve the plans for construction at Jabal Abu Ghneim; and to consider Jerusalem as being subject to the principles set forth in Security Council resolution 242 (1967) and, in particular, to the principle of the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force;

9. To support the recommendation of the Al-Quds Committee, under the chairmanship of His Majesty King Hassan II, that the assets of the Al-Quds Fund and Waqf should immediately be placed at the disposal of the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Palestinian National Authority in view of the present conditions in the City of Jerusalem and in order to counter the conspiracy for the Judaization of the City and the settlement campaign;

10. To adopt 28 June, the day Israel proclaimed the annexation of Jerusalem, as an annual day to express rejection of that decision by every means, and primarily by a five-minute Arab general strike and by an extensive media campaign to counter the Israeli policy of depriving Palestinian citizens of their right to reside on their land and in their City by using all manner of illegal means and measures;

11. To take appropriate measures to thwart any Israeli scheme relating to Jerusalem in the Congress of Historic Cities, both through contacts with the Governing Council of the Organization of Historic Cities in Kyoto, Japan, and through contacts with officials in Poland, where the next session of the Congress is to be held;

12. To urge all Arab and Islamic States that have historic cities to apply for membership of the Organization of Historic Cities with a view to safeguarding Arab rights in Jerusalem;

13. To continue to coordinate action by the General Secretariat of the League of Arab States and the Organization of the Islamic Conference relating to the situation of the City of Jerusalem and measures for its Judaization; and to take joint action to convene a seminar on Jerusalem, as decided by the Council at its previous session in its resolution 5581 C of 15 September 1996;

14. To request the Secretary-General to establish the necessary contacts with international and regional organizations and the specialized agencies of the United Nations in order to consider appropriate means of preserving the cultural and religious heritage of the Holy City of Jerusalem.

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FINANCING OF THE UNITED NATIONS MISSION IN HAITI

FINANCING OF THE UNITED NATIONS SUPPORT MISSION IN HAITI

Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions has considered the reports of the Secretary-General on the financial performance of the United Nations Mission in Haiti (UNMIH) for the period from 1 March to 30 June 1996 (A/51/764) and on the final disposition of assets of UNMIH (A/51/764/Add.1). The Committee also considered the report of the Secretary-General on the proposed budget for the United Nations Support Mission in Haiti (UNSMIH) for the period from 1 July 1997 to 15 March 1998 (A/51/825). During its consideration of the reports the Committee met with representatives of the Secretary-General, including the Chief Administrative Officer, who provided additional information.

2. In its resolution 51/14 of 4 November 1996, the General Assembly requested that detailed explanations be provided on the circumstances that led to overexpenditures in the contractual services for UNMIH for the period from 1 August 1995 to 29 February 1996. The Advisory Committee had noted with concern that the actual cost of logistical support services amounted to $13,717,225, resulting in an overexpenditure of $6,710,700, as a result of contracting services using a letter-of-assist arrangement (A/51/444, para. 9).

3. In paragraph 43 of annex II of his report of 12 August 1996 (A/50/363/Add.3), the Secretary-General reported that additional expenditures of $6,710,700 under contractual services related to the overexpenditure of $5,878,700 in logistics support services for UNMIH and of $832,000 charged to UNMIH, on an ad hoc basis, for costs of maintaining the United Nations Logistics

Base at Brindisi. It was indicated that the budget estimates for logistical support of $7,589,300 had been based on the assumption that services would be provided by commercial contractors, for the period from 1 August 1995 to 29 February 1996, at an average cost of $1.1 million per month. However, during August and September 1995 the Mission had to continue the logistics services under the letter-of-assist arrangement that had existed since April 1995 to allow the commercial contractors the time to become fully operational.

4. As indicated in paragraph 7 of the report of the Secretary-General of 27 December 1996 (A/51/764), the actual cost under the letter-of-assist arrangement amounted to approximately $3 million per month during August and September 1995; in addition, the actual cost under the commercial contracts was an average of $1.5 million per month for the period from October 1995 to February 1996, as compared with the average estimated cost of $1.1 million per month. The Advisory Committee points out that paragraphs 7 and 8 of the report provide very little additional information that significantly clarifies the circumstances that led to the overexpenditure of $6.7 million in support services. The Committee sought clarification as to the services included in the $3 million monthly payment under the letter of assist and was provided with a detailed breakdown of services, which is attached as annex I to the present report.

5. The Advisory Committee notes with concern that expenditures for logistics support services were incurred by the United Nations before the contracts were submitted to bid. Upon request, the Committee was informed that more than six months were required to identify the actual logistics support service requirements of the Mission to be provided by commercial contractors and to complete the related cost/benefit analyses before submitting proposals to bid. The Committee is of the view that the large overexpenditure in the logistics support services of UNMIH is the result of poor mission planning and lack of in-house expertise to make cost/benefit analyses of those services. The Committee recommends that the Secretary-General strengthen the mission planning capacity of the United Nations for prompt and accurate identification of mission needs so that required logistics support services can be quickly and reliably identified and costed in order to determine what services may be contracted out and which may be performed without being submitted to bid.

II. FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE REPORT FOR THE PERIOD FROM 1 MARCH TO 30 JUNE 1996

6. As indicated in paragraph 1 of the report of the Secretary-General of 27 December 1996 (A/51/764), in its resolution 1048 (1996) of 29 February 1996, the Security Council extended the mandate of UNMIH for a final period of four months until 30 June 1996, with a troop strength of 1,200 contingent personnel and 300 civilian police, and requested that planning be initiated by 1 June 1996 for the complete withdrawal of UNMIH.

7. In its resolution 50/90 B of 7 June 1996, the General Assembly appropriated and assessed the amount of $45,314,000 gross ($44,348,400 net) for the period from 1 March to 30 June 1996. As shown in annex I of the report of the Secretary-General, total expenditures for the period amounted to $38,291,200

gross ($37,508,100 net), including $22,050,200 in unliquidated obligations. In paragraph 9 of the report, the Secretary-General proposed that the General Assembly take action on the treatment of the unencumbered balance of $7,022,800 gross ($6,840,300 net). The Advisory Committee recommends that this amount be credited among Member States.

8. Upon request, the Advisory Committee was informed that the financial performance report shown in annex I of the report of the Secretary-General included expenditure in the accounts as at 30 September 1996. The Committee was provided with an update of the status of unliquidated obligations, which amount to $8,250,800 as at 31 January 1997 (see annex II).

9. The Advisory Committee notes from annex II.B, paragraph 31, and annex V to the report that savings in air operations were again the result of weaknesses in the methodology followed during the mission planning stages. The cost estimates were prepared on the basis of an estimate of 860 flying/hours, while the actual utilization was only 420 flying/hours. The Committee requested clarification as to the circumstances in the mission area for such a large discrepancy. The Committee was informed that the helicopter operations for UNMIH were provided by two Governments under a letter-of-assist arrangement. However, as one Government's participation in UNMIH ended, its helicopter support to the Mission also terminated on 15 April 1996. All operational requirements were concentrated in the Port-au-Prince and Cap Haitien areas and were met by utilizing the seven medium-lift (CH-135) helicopters provided by one Government. The Committee reiterates its view that air operation requirements should be better assessed and cost estimates further refined so that large discrepancies in flying/hour requirements are avoided (see, for example, A/51/444, para. 12).

10. The Advisory Committee notes from annex II.B, paragraph 65, of the report of the Secretary-General that savings of $1,205,000 were realized as a result of a decreased requirement for shipment of contingent-owned equipment. The Committee sought further clarification on the rotation of contingents that resulted in the savings. It was informed that during the preparation of the cost estimates for the period from 1 March to 30 June 1996, it had been anticipated that the 1,200 troops authorized by the Security Council in its resolution 1048 (1996) would be rotated and that requirements for transport of contingent-owned equipment associated with the rotation of troops would amount to about $1.2 million. However, the Pakistani contingent that rotated at the end of March 1996 and the Canadian contingent that rotated in April 1996 utilized the same contingent-owned equipment deployed in the mission area in the prior mandate periods. The Bangladeshi contingent did not rotate during the mandate period under review.

11. The Advisory Committee is of the view that there appears to be a problem of an excessive manual processing and preparation of the mission accounts. For instance, the performance report for the period from 1 March to 30 June 1996 was prepared six months later on the basis of data that were incomplete as of September 1996. The narratives and information provided in the report are often inaccurate or are poorly drafted (e.g. paras. 3, 5, 21 and 65 of annex II.B). Often expenditures from the previous mandate period are charged to the subsequent period, distorting the accuracy of the expenditure report, as, for example, those included in paragraphs 37, 44 and 46 of annex II.B. Moreover, it

appears that obligations are raised in one period of the accounts so that a large cushion is available to cover cost overruns in the previous period, reflecting poor budgeting methodology and inadequate estimation techniques.

12. In the past, the Advisory Committee has expressed concern about the timely submission and accuracy of expenditure data of peacekeeping operations. The Committee had trusted that with the introduction of computer-based accounting systems and training of mission personnel the situation would improve (see, for example, A/50/488/Add.1, para. 5). The Committee believes that weaknesses in this area remain and that efforts should be redoubled to improve the present reporting of expenditures, including the narratives in the performance reports of peacekeeping missions. The Committee believes that timely expenditure reports and inventories of United Nations assets should be prepared in the field on the basis of clear instructions and standard formats provided by Headquarters.

13. The Advisory Committee recalls that, as indicated in paragraphs 9 to 14 of the report of the Secretary-General of 18 March 1996 (A/50/363/Add.2 and Corr.1), for the budget period from 1 March to 30 June 1996, the Secretary-General reported on resources available and activities to be covered under trust funds that had been established in connection with UNMIH. The Committee is of the view that expenditures incurred from voluntary resources during the period should also be reported on in the Secretary-General's financial performance report.

III. FINAL DISPOSITION OF THE ASSETS OF THE UNITED NATIONS MISSION IN HAITI

14. The report of the Secretary-General of 11 March 1997 on the final disposition of UNMIH assets (A/51/764/Add.1) was submitted pursuant to section VII of General Assembly resolution 49/233 A of 23 December 1994. The inventory value of the Mission's assets at the end of its mandate on 30 June 1996 amounted to $32,339,800 (ibid., annex I).

15. As indicated in paragraph 5 and annex I of the report, UNMIH assets have been classified into three groups in accordance with the guidelines approved by the General Assembly in section VII of its resolution 49/233 A on the disposition of assets of peacekeeping operations:

(a) Assets, with an inventory value of $29,628,900, or 91 per cent of the total, that conformed to established standards and were compatible with existing equipment in other peacekeeping operations, were transferred to UNSMIH ($25,293,800) and other missions ($1,085,900) and to the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi ($3,249,200);

(b) Assets, with an inventory value of $237,200, that were identified as not suitable for transfer outside Haiti were either sold to other organizations and the Government of Haiti ($225,100) or donated to the Government ($12,100);

(c) Assets, with an inventory value of $2,473,700, were either written off ($2,387,500) or lost ($86,200) during the course of the Mission. Assets written

off included 387 vehicles that were considered beyond economic use, including 3 vehicles donated to the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), 181 vehicles donated to the Government of Haiti as is and 203 that were cannibalized for spare parts and scrap metal and donated to the Haitian National Police (see A/51/764/Add.1, annex V).

16. With regard to mission assets transferred to the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, the Advisory Committee sought clarification on the value of the equipment transferred to Brindisi and on the cost/benefit analyses by type of equipment carried out before the transfer of equipment. The information provided is shown in annex III.A to the present report. The Committee has expressed concern about the tendency to transfer items of equipment to other missions that have little or marginal value, incurring unnecessary expenses for transportation, storage and processing (A/51/533, para. 58).

17. The Committee also sought and received further information on the type of communications and data-processing equipment transferred to United Nations Headquarters and on the type of property written off or lost (see annex III.B and C).

18. The Advisory Committee expresses concern about the format and content of the document. The Committee considers the report on the final disposition of UNMIH assets inadequate and incomplete. In the view of the Committee, the objective should be to indicate the final disposition of mission assets, classifying all assets approved for the Mission since its inception in the same categories and in the same detail as when they were budgeted and approved. For example, the category of assets listed in paragraph 4 and annexes I and II of the report under the headings vehicles, communications equipment, data-processing equipment, generators and other equipment transferred to UNSMIH and other missions and to the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi should be related to those assets listed in annex V.B, tables 3 to 14, of the report of the Secretary-General of 22 August 1995 (A/50/363 and Corr.1) and in annex IV to the report of the Secretary-General of 22 February 1995 (A/49/318/Add.2 and Corr.1).

19. The Advisory Committee believes that there are weaknesses and lack of expertise during the liquidation phase of the Mission and lack of clear and comprehensive instructions on disposition of assets for mission personnel. The Committee is of the view that, whenever possible, the mission personnel most familiar with the operation of the mission should remain in the field during the liquidation phase.

IV. COST ESTIMATES FOR THE OPERATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS SUPPORT MISSION IN HAITI FOR THE PERIOD FROM 1 JULY 1997 TO 15 MARCH 1998

20. In its resolution 1086 (1996) of 5 December 1996, the Security Council decided to extend for the final time the mandate of UNSMIH, as set out in its resolution 1063 (1996) of 28 June 1996 and in paragraphs 6 to 8 of the report of the Secretary-General of 12 November 1996 (S/1996/813/Add.1). The Council reduced the mission troop strength from 600 to 500 troops and authorized 300

civilian police personnel, and requested the Secretary-General to report to it on the implementation of the resolution, including on further reductions in the strength of the Mission, by 31 March 1997.

21. In paragraph 17 of his report of 11 March 1997 (A/51/825), the Secretary-General proposes a budget of $14,530,000 gross ($13,917,400 net) for the requirements of the Mission for the period from 1 July 1997 to 15 March 1998, subject to the decision of the Security Council to extend the mandate of the Mission. The current mandate, which ends on 31 May 1997, may be further extended until 31 July 1997, in accordance with Security Council resolution 1086 (1996), if the Secretary-General reports by 31 March 1997 that UNSMIH can make a further contribution to the goals of the Mission, as set out in paragraph 1 of resolution 1086 (1996).

22. The cost estimates include provision for the maintenance of UNSMIH during July 1997 at a strength of 500 troops and 300 civilian police, supported by 119 international staff, 156 local staff and 14 United Nations Volunteers, and for the liquidation of the Mission for the period from 1 August 1997 to mid-March 1998. The proposed civilian staffing reflects a reduction of nine international posts from the staffing level approved for the previous mandate period.

23. The Advisory Committee notes from paragraph 20 of the same report that during the liquidation of the Mission, the civilian staff will be reduced from the proposed staffing of 289 posts to 216 posts by the end of August 1997, to 172 posts by the end of September and to 3 posts by the end of October. The remaining three staff members (one P-5 and two General Service) would continue their tasks in the mission area until January 1998 and at United Nations Headquarters until 15 March 1998.

24. As indicated in paragraphs 4 and 11 of the report of the Secretary-General of 9 September 1996 (A/51/191/Add.1), pursuant to paragraph 6 of Security Council resolution 1063 (1996), the authorized troops (500 personnel) are supplemented with 800 infantry and support troops provided under the Trust Fund for the Enhancement of UNSMIH Capacity. These supplementary troops are supported by 53 additional civilian staff also funded under the Trust Fund. Upon request, the Committee was provided with tables showing the distribution of troops financed by assessed contributions and voluntary contributions to the Trust Fund; levels and areas of responsibility of civilian staff provided under the Trust Fund; and deployment of civilian police by nationality as at 28 February 1997 (see annex IV).

25. As in the previous period, from 1 July to 30 November 1996, all direct and indirect costs associated with the additional military personnel and civilian staff are to be covered by the Trust Fund (see A/51/444, annex III). For the period from 1 December 1996 to 31 July 1997, the Advisory Committee was given, upon request, a schedule showing all charges to be covered by the Trust Fund, amounting to $20,617,700 (see annex V to the present report). Furthermore, the Committee was informed that, as at 25 March 1997, contributions amounting to $16,076,737 had been received for the period from 1 December 1996 to 31 July 1997, in addition to $12.3 million received for the period from 1 July to 30 November 1996.

26. The Advisory Committee notes from annex I and annex II.D, paragraph 1, of the report of the Secretary-General of 11 March 1997 (A/51/825) that the estimate for reimbursement to Governments providing contingent-owned equipment to UNSMIH has increased from $432,000 provided for the previous period (1 July 1996 to 30 June 1997) to $583,800 for the period from 1 July to 30 August 1997 as a result of the changeover to the new "wet-lease" arrangement. The Committee sought clarification on the matter and was informed that under the new arrangement the contingents were responsible for the maintenance and repairs of their communications, vehicles and other equipment. The estimate was based on the standard rates for reimbursement of major equipment and self-sustainment approved by the General Assembly. While the new arrangement results in an increase under contingent-owned equipment (budget line 1 (c)), the estimates reflect a decrease under spare parts, repairs and maintenance of vehicles (line 5), complementary communications (line 8 (a)) and other equipment (line 9).

27. With respect to rental of vehicles, as indicated in annex II.B and annex II.D, paragraph 6, of the same report, since all United Nations-owned equipment will be repatriated by the end of October, provision of $9,000 is made for rental of two sedans for the financial liquidation team during the last three months in the mission area. Upon request, the Committee was informed that, while the direct cost of using United Nations-owned vehicles, estimated at $2,260 per month for two vehicles, might be lower than the estimated rental cost of $3,000 per month for two vehicles, the first figure did not include indirect costs, such as staff time related to settlement of claims in case of accidents and during the disposition of the two vehicles at the end of the financial liquidation tasks, or additional rental cost that might be incurred when vehicles were under repair.

28. In annex II.B and annex II.D, paragraph 11, of the report, provision of $2 million is requested for commercial freight and cartage. It is indicated that this amount will be required for the charter of two ships for transport of United Nations-owned equipment to the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi. In response to inquiry, the Advisory Committee was informed that the estimate was based on the requirement of 10,000 cubic metres per ship at a cost of $100 per cubic metre. One ship would be required to transport approximately 500 vehicles and the other to transport equipment, including communications equipment, generators, water-purification equipment and office furniture. At the present time, it is assumed that the 500 vehicles with a depreciated value greater than 20 per cent of the inventory value will be transferred to the Logistics Base. The selection of the shipping contractor will be carried out by Headquarters in accordance with established bidding procedures on the basis of the load list from UNSMIH, including weight and dimensions.

29. With respect to the proposals of the Secretary-General in paragraph 23 of his report, the Advisory Committee recommends that the General Assembly approve the appropriation and assessment of the amount of $14,530,000 gross ($13,917,400 net) for the period from 1 July 1997 to 15 March 1998, subject to extension of the mandate of UNSMIH by the Security Council, and that the special arrangements as regards article IV of the Financial Regulations of the United Nations, as described in paragraph 14 of the report of the Secretary-General, be applied to UNSMIH.

ANNEX I

Contractual services provided under the letter of assist arrangement for the period from 1 August to 30 September 1995

Tasks	Number of personnel[a] August 1995 IS	ES	LS	US	Total	September 1995 IS	ES	LS	US	Total	Total costs reported in A/50/363/Add.3	Description of services
											(United States dollars)	
Management and administration	35	34	87	10	166	37	30	94	22	183	2 597 700	Management and administrative services in support of the other tasks being performed; communications support; electronic data-processing support; and warehouse management.
Water distribution	2	4	14	-	20	2	3	4	-	9	162 500	Water-purification services, including storage, delivery, distribution and testing of water.
Construction and maintenance	34	21	474	-	529	33	22	458	-	513	1 445 900	Supply of water and propane; grounds maintenance, cleaning of ablution units, trash services, latrine and sewage holding tank services; maintenance of showers, dining facilities, generators, perimeter lighting, interior, perimeter and access roads and drainage ditches; handling of maintenance calls from tenants in all camps; disposal of hazardous material; and transient camps.
Communications support											-	
Fuel operations	-	5	14	-	19	-	5	10	-	15	63 700	Bulk and retail fuel operations, including maintenance, storage and dispensation of fuel, testing and reporting on fuel consumption.
Equipment maintenance	-	11	39	-	50	-	11	43	-	54	130 700	Maintenance on military-pattern vehicles, including operation and maintenance of repair shops, operation of contact and recovery teams, and management of repair shops.

Tasks	Number of personnel[a] August 1995 IS	ES	LS	US	Total	Number of personnel[a] September 1995 IS	ES	LS	US	Total	Total costs reported in A/50/363/Add.3	Description of services
											(United States dollars)	
Personnel services											-	
General services											964 245[b]	
Warehouse management											-	
Ground transportation	-	14	66	-	80	-	13	93	-	106	277 000	Movement of general cargo, bulk fuel, bulk water and containers throughout the mission area.
Airfield operations											-	
Roads and runways											-	
Electronic data-processing support											-	
Port operations	3	3	5	-	11	3	3	4	-	10	69 600	Seaport operations, including stevedore services, cargo services, quay/pier berthing services, landing craft unit services and reporting.
Laundry services	-	2	29	-	31	-	2	31	-	33	221 300	Laundry services, including operation, maintenance, pick-up, delivery or distribution and provision of alternate laundry services should the regular facility be inoperative.
Disposal of hazardous material											-	
Transient camp											-	
Total	74	94	728	10	906	75	89	737	22	923	5 932 645	

[a] IS International staff.
ES International service employees.
LS Local staff.
US Employed in support office in the United States of America.

[b] Funds obligated but services provided under other tasks. Obligations will be liquidated.

ANNEX II

Status of unliquidated obligations for the period 1 March to 30 June 1996 as at 31 January 1997

(Thousands of United States dollars)

	Unliquidated obligations
1. Military personnel costs	
(a) Military observers	-
(b) Military contingents	
Standard troop cost reimbursement	30.9
Welfare	-
Rations	76.5
Daily allowance	-
Mission subsistence allowance	-
Emplacement, rotation and repatriation of troops	1 180.4
Clothing and equipment allowance	-
Subtotal	1 287.8
(c) Other costs pertaining to military personnel	
Contingent-owned equipment	1 443.8
Death and disability compensation	241.8
Subtotal	1 685.6
Total, line 1	2 973.4
2. Civilian personnel costs	
(a) Civilian police	
Mission subsistence allowance	-
Travel costs	350.8
Clothing and equipment allowance	-
Subtotal	350.8

	Unliquidated obligations
(b) International and local staff	
International staff salaries	-
Local staff salaries	-
Consultants	-
Overtime	-
General temporary assistance	-
Common staff costs	87.5
Mission subsistence allowance	-
Other travel costs	2.4
Subtotal	89.9
(c) International contractual personnel	-
(d) United Nations Volunteers	
Mission subsistence allowance	-
Individual service contract	149.8
Subtotal	149.8
(e) Government-provided personnel	-
(f) Civilian electoral observers	-
Total, line 2	590.5
3. Premises/accommodation	
Rental of premises	-
Alteration and renovation of premises	-
Maintenance supplies	-
Maintenance services	1.5
Utilities	26.5
Construction/prefabricated buildings	-
Total, line 3	28.0

		Unliquidated obligations
4.	Infrastructure repairs	-
5.	Transport operations	
	Purchase of vehicles	-
	Rental of vehicles	-
	Workshop equipment	-
	Spare parts, repairs and maintenance	221.0
	Petrol, oil and lubricants	0.1
	Vehicle insurance	51.3
	Total, line 5	272.4
6.	Air operations	
	(a) Helicopter operations	
	Hire/charter costs	107.0
	Aviation fuel and lubricants	1.0
	Positioning/depositioning costs	-
	Resupply flights	-
	Painting/preparation	-
	Liability and war-risk insurance	-
	Subtotal	108.0
	(b) Fixed-wing aircraft	
	Hire/charter costs	10.0
	Aviation fuel and lubricants	-
	Positioning/depositioning costs	-
	Painting/preparation	-
	Resupply flights	-
	Liability and war-risk insurance	-
	Subtotal	10.0

		Unliquidated obligations
	(c) Aircrew subsistence allowance	-
	(d) Other air operations	
	Air traffic control services and equipment	-
	Landing fees and ground handling	-
	Fuel storage and containers	-
	Subtotal	-
	Total, line 6	118.0
7.	Naval operations	-
8.	Communications	
	(a) Complementary communications	
	Communications equipment	6.0
	Spare parts and supplies	2.5
	Workshop and test equipment	-
	Commercial communications	19.6
	Subtotal	28.1
	(b) Main trunking contract	-
	Total, line 8	28.1
9.	Other equipment	
	Office furniture	-
	Office equipment	3
	Data-processing equipment	-
	Generators	-
	Observation equipment	-
	Petrol tank plus metering equipment	-
	Water and septic tanks	-
	Medical and dental equipment	-
	Accommodation equipment	-
	Refrigeration equipment	62.2
	Miscellaneous equipment	-
	Field defence equipment	-

	Unliquidated obligations
Spare parts, repairs and maintenance	-
Water-purification equipment	-
Total, line 9	62.5
10. Supplies and services	
(a) Miscellaneous services	
Audit services	49.8
Contractual services	2 107.7
Data-processing services	-
Security services	-
Medical treatment and services	184.1
Claims and adjustments	-
Official hospitality	-
Miscellaneous other services	-
Subtotal	2 341.0
(b) Miscellaneous supplies	
Stationery and office supplies	2.4
Medical supplies	54.0
Sanitation and cleaning materials	-
Subscriptions	-
Electrical supplies	-
Ballistic-protective blankets for vehicles	-
Uniform items, flags and decals	-
Field defence stores	-
Operational maps	-
Quartermaster and general stores	8.4
Subtotal	64.8
Total, line 10	2 405.8
11. Election-related supplies and services	-

	Unliquidated obligations
12. Public information programmes	
Equipment	-
Materials and supplies	-
Production costs	0.2
Department of Public Information production costs	-
Total, line 12	0.2
13. Training programmes	-
14. Mine-clearing programmes	-
15. Assistance for disarmament and demobilization	-
16. Air and surface freight	
Transport of contingent-owned equipment	1 771.9
Military airlifts	-
Commercial freight and cartage	-
Total, line 16	1 771.9
17. Integrated Management Information System	-
18. Support account for peacekeeping operations	-
19. Staff assessment	-
Total, lines 1-19	8 250.8
20. Income from staff assessment	-
21. Voluntary contributions in kind (budgeted)	-
Total, lines 20-21	-
Gross requirements	8 250.8
Net requirements	8 250.8
22. Voluntary contributions in kind (non-budgeted)	-
Total resources	8 250.8

ANNEX III

Final disposition of assets

(United States dollars)

A. Equipment transferred to the United Nations Logistics Base, Brindisi

Description	Value
Vehicles	
Trailers, mobile home/office	685 125
Trailer, water-purification unit	317 475
Total	1 002 600
Communications equipment[a]	
Satellite antenna	237 605
Shelters	173 937
Telephone equipment	73 808
Total	485 350

[a] The following are the factors considered prior to the shipment of equipment: physical state of the equipment and remaining value; requirements of UNSMIH; requirements of other missions; transportation costs; whether equipment can withstand the rigours of shipment; and feasibility of disposal of the equipment locally by auction, sale or donation.

B. Equipment transferred to United Nations Headquarters

Description	Quantity	Value
Communications equipment		
INMARSAT (faulty)		23 000
INMARSAT sets		16 650
Cryptophone		54 000
Cryptofax		24 900
Total		118 550
Data-processing equipment		
Central processing unit	26	54 139
Laptop	74	194 402
Monitor	14	3 805
Printer	27	8 523
Uninterrupted power source	18	4 374
Total	159	265 243

C. Property written off or lost

Description	Quantity	Value
Vehicles[a]		
Pick-up truck	346	1 826 618
4 x 4	28	449 332
Minibus	3	26 370
Motorcycle	10	13 780
Total	387	2 316 100
Communications equipment (lost)		
UHF, hand-held	89	43 922
UHF, mobile	40	21 479
EXICOM VAG antenna	1	600
EXICOM repeater	1	4 080
Solar panel	1	596
Battery	1	113
Voltage regulator	1	200
INMARSAT	1	8 000
Total	135	78 990

[a] The 387 vehicles were written off as they were beyond economic use. These vehicles were subsequently disposed of as follows: 3 vehicles were donated to the United Nations Children's Fund, 181 were donated as is to the Government of Haiti and 203 were cannibalized for spare parts and scrap material and donated to the Haitian National Police.

ANNEX IV

Deployment of military and civilian personnel

A. Distribution of troops financed by assessed contributions and voluntary contributions to the Trust Fund

	1 July-4 December 1996							5 December 1996-31 May 1997						
	Assessed contributions				Voluntary contributions			Assessed contributions				Voluntary contributions		
Nationality	Head-quarters	Infantry	Support	Total	Infantry	Support	Total	Head-quarters	Infantry	Support	Total	Infantry	Support	Total
Bangladesh	8	-	-	8	-	-	-[a]	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Canada	38	289	224	551	-	200	200[b]	40	301	121	462	-	300	300
Pakistan	13	27	-	40	500	-	500	13	25	-	38	500	-	500
Trinidad and Tobago	1	-	-	1	-	-	-[a]	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	60	316	224	600	500	200	700	53	326	121	500	500	300	800

[a] Repatriated in December 1996.

[b] Twenty-eight troops were added in October 1996, bringing the number of Canadian troops financed by voluntary contributions from 172 to 200.

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B. Civilian staff to be provided under the Trust Fund for the period from 1 December 1996 to 31 July 1997

	International						
	Field Service	General Service	Security Service	Total	Local	United Nations Volunteers	Total
Office of the Force Commander	-	3	-	3	9	-	12
Office of the Chief Administrative Officer	-	1	-	1	-	-	1
Finance	-	3	-	3	1	-	4
Personnel	-	2	-	2	-	-	2
Procurement	-	1	-	1	-	-	1
General services	-	-	-	-	2	1	3
Logistics	-	-	-	-	3	2	5
Movement control	-	-	-	-	-	2	2
Engineering	-	-	-	-	2	2	4
Communications	3	-	-	3	3	-	6
Transport	3	-	-	3	3	-	6
Security services	-	-	1	1	1	-	2
Regional offices	-	-	-	-	4	1	5
Total	6	10	1	17	28	8	53

C. Deployment of civilian police as at 28 February 1997

State	Number
Algeria	15
Canada	99
France	70
India	1
Mali	38
Togo	7
United States of America	31
Total	261

ANNEX V

Trust Fund for the Enhancement of UNSMIH Capacity for the period 1 December 1996 to 31 July 1997

(Thousands of United States dollars)

	Costs estimates for			
	1 300 troops	500 troops	800 troops	Remarks
1. Military personnel costs				
(a) Military observers	-	-	-	
(b) Military contingents				
Standard troop cost reimbursement	11 114.2	4 500.0	6 614.2	Direct.[a]
Welfare	174.9	70.5	104.4	Direct.
Rations	3 506.7	1 100.0	2 406.7	Pro rata based on troop strength.[b]
Daily allowance	417.6	168.8	248.8	Direct.
Meals and accommodation allowance	834.4	834.4	-	Provided under UNSMIH budget.
Emplacement rotation and repatriation of troops	1 988.5	550.0	1 438.5	Direct.
Clothing and equipment allowance	751.3	303.3	448.0	Direct.
Subtotal	18 787.6	7 527.0	11 260.6	
(c) Other costs pertaining to military personnel				
Contingent-owned equipment	2 782.8	432.0	2 350.8	Direct.
Death and disability compensation	453.3	240.0	213.3	Direct.
Subtotal	3 236.1	672.0	2 564.1	
Total, line 1	22 023.7	8 199.0	13 824.7	
2. Civilian personnel costs				
(a) Civilian police	-	-	-	
(b) International and local staff				
International staff salaries	3 621.3	3 114.0	507.3	Incremental.[c]
Local staff salaries	790.8	638.1	152.7	Incremental.
Consultants	-	-	-	
Overtime	-	-	-	
Common staff costs	2 197.1	1 838.3	358.8	Incremental.
Mission subsistence allowance	2 163.8	1 804.4	359.4	Incremental.
Travel to and from the mission area	-	-	-	
Other travel costs	87.7	87.7	-	Incremental.
Subtotal	8 860.7	7 482.5	1 378.2	
(c) International contractual personnel	-	-	-	
(d) United Nations Volunteers	761.6	484.8	276.8	Incremental.

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	Costs estimates for			
	1 300 troops	500 troops	800 troops	Remarks
(e) Government-provided personnel	-	-	-	
(f) Civilian electoral observers	-	-	-	
Total, line 2	9 622.3	7 967.3	1 655.0	
3. Premises/accommodation				
(a) Civilian				
Rental of premises	415.2	332.2	83.0	Incremental.
Alteration and renovation of premises	-	-	-	
Maintenance supplies	50.0	40.0	10.0	Incremental.
Maintenance services	30.0	24.0	6.0	Incremental.
Utilities	339.3	271.4	67.9	Incremental.
Subtotal	834.5	667.6	166.9	
(b) Military				
Rental of premises	96.0	-	96.0	Direct.
Alteration and renovation of premises	-	-	-	
Maintenance supplies	-	-	-	
Maintenance services	-	-	-	
Utilities	299.0	115.0	184.0	Direct.
Subtotal	395.0	115.0	280.0	
Total, line 3	1 229.5	782.6	446.9	
4. Infrastructure repairs				
Upgrading of airstrips	-	-	-	
Upgrading of roads	6.7	6.7	-	Provided under UNSMIH budget.
Repair of bridges	-	-	-	
Total, line 4	6.7	6.7	-	
5. Transport operations				
Purchase of vehicles	-	-	-	
Rental of vehicles	-	-	-	
Workshop equipment	-	-	-	
Spare parts, repairs and maintenance	1 389.2	1 106.4	282.8	Direct.
Petrol, oil and lubricants	724.8	619.2	105.6	Direct.
Vehicle insurance	84.8	69.6	15.2	Direct.
Total, line 5	2 198.8	1 795.2	403.6	
6. Air operations				
(a) Helicopter operations				
Hire/charter costs	1 496.7	1 496.7	-	Provided under UNSMIH budget.

	Costs estimates for			
	1 300 troops	500 troops	800 troops	Remarks
Aviation fuel and lubricants	124.0	124.0	-	Provided under UNSMIH budget.
Positioning/depositioning costs	-	-	-	
Resupply flights	-	-	-	
Painting/preparation	-	-	-	
Liability insurance	48.0	48.0	-	Provided under UNSMIH budget.
Subtotal	1 668.7	1 668.7	-	
(b) Fixed-wing aircraft				
Hire/charter costs	86.0	56.0	30.0	Direct.
Aviation fuel and lubricants	-	-	-	
Positioning/depositioning costs	-	-	-	
Painting/preparation	-	-	-	
Liability insurance	-	-	-	
Subtotal	86.0	56.0	30.0	
(c) Aircrew subsistence allowance	-	-	-	
(d) Other air operations				
Air traffic control services and equipment	56.0	56.0	-	Provided under UNSMIH budget.
Landing fees and ground handling	-	-	-	
Fuel storage containers	-	-	-	
Subtotal	56.0	56.0	-	
Total, line 6	1 810.7	1 780.7	30.0	
7. Naval operations	-	-	-	
8. Communications				
(a) Complementary communications				
Communications equipment	-	-	-	
Spare parts and supplies	81.6	81.6	-	Direct.
Workshop and test equipment	-	-	-	
Commercial communications	251.2	240.0	11.2	Direct.
Subtotal	332.8	321.6	11.2	
(b) Main trunking contract	-	-	-	
Total, line 8	332.8	321.6	11.2	
9. Other equipment				
Office furniture	-	-	-	
Office equipment	-	-	-	
Data-processing equipment	-	-	-	
Generators	-	-	-	

	Costs estimates for			
	1 300 troops	500 troops	800 troops	Remarks
Observation equipment	-	-	-	
Petrol tank plus metering equipment	-	-	-	
Medical and dental equipment	-	-	-	
Accommodation equipment	-	-	-	
Miscellaneous equipment	-	-	-	
Tentage	-	-	-	
Water-purification equipment	-	-	-	
Spare parts, repairs and maintenance	216.3	83.2	133.1	Pro rata based on troop strength.
Total, line 9	216.3	83.2	133.1	
10. Supplies and services				
(a) Miscellaneous services				
Audit services	-	-	-	
Contractual services	2 846.2	2 275.2	571.0	Direct.
Data-processing services	-	-	-	
Security services	120.6	46.4	74.2	Pro rata based on troop strength.
Medical treatment and services	1 000.0	600.0	400.0	Direct.
Claims and adjustments	62.4	24.0	38.4	Pro rata based on troop strength.
Official hospitality	8.0	8.0	-	Provided under UNSMIH budget.
Miscellaneous other services	41.6	16.0	25.6	Pro rata based on troop strength.
Subtotal	4 078.8	2 969.6	1 109.2	
(b) Miscellaneous supplies				
Stationery and office supplies	174.7	67.2	107.5	Pro rata based on troop strength.
Medical supplies	268.8	268.8	-	Direct.
Sanitation and cleaning materials	249.6	96.0	153.6	Pro rata based on troop strength.
Subscriptions	8.3	3.2	5.1	Pro rata based on troop strength.
Electrical supplies	-	-	-	
Ballistic-protective blankets for vehicles	-	-	-	
Uniform items, flags and decals	37.4	14.4	23.0	Pro rata based on troop strength.
Field defence stores	-	-	-	
Operational maps	8.6	3.3	5.3	Pro rata based on troop strength.
Quartermaster and general stores	212.2	81.6	130.6	Pro rata based on troop strength.
Miscellaneous supplies	-	-	-	
Subtotal	959.6	534.5	425.1	
Total, line 10	5 038.4	3 504.1	1 534.3	
11. Election-related supplies and services	-	-	-	

	Costs estimates for			
	1 300 troops	500 troops	800 troops	Remarks
12. Public information programmes				
Equipment	-	-	-	
Materials and supplies	4.8	4.8	-	Provided under UNSMIH budget.
Contractual services	40.0	40.0	-	Provided under UNSMIH budget.
Department of Public Information production costs	-	-	-	
Total, line 12	44.8	44.8	-	
13. Training programmes	-	-	-	
14. Mine-clearing programmes	-	-	-	
15. Assistance for disarmament and demobilization	-	-	-	
16. Air and surface freight				
Transport of contingent-owned equipment	812.5	-	812.5	Direct.
Military airlifts	-	-	-	
Commercial freight and cartage	104.0	40.0	64.0	Pro rata based on troop strength.
Total, line 16	916.5	40.0	876.5	
17. United Nations Logistics Base, Brindisi	-	-	-	
18. Support account for peacekeeping operations	-	-	-	
19. Staff assessment	1 235.8	1 044.3	191.5	Incremental.
Total, lines 1-19	44 676.2	25 569.4	19 106.8	
20. Income from staff assessment	(1 235.8)	(1 044.3)	(191.5)	Incremental.
Net total	43 440.4	24 525.1	18 915.3	
21. Programme support costs	1 702.4	-	1 702.4	Incremental.
Trust Fund total	-	-	20 617.7	
22. Voluntary contributions in kind	-	-	-	
Total resources	45 142.8	24 525.1	20 617.7	

[a] Costs directly attributable or payable to troop-contributing Governments.

[b] Costs distributed based on the ratio of 500:800 troops by applying the percentage of 38:62 respectively. A breakdown of the 500 troops financed by assessed contributions and 800 under voluntary contributions is shown in annex IV.A.

[c] Costs associated with the 53 civilian staff required to support the voluntary troops in addition to the core staff under the UNSMIH budget. The additional 800 troops do not require a proportionate increase in civilian staffing taking into account the economy of scale. A breakdown of the additional civilian staff is provided in annex IV.B.

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Fifty-first session
Agenda item 19

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES

Letter dated 3 April 1997 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Bolivia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the General Assembly

I have the honour to inform you that the Government of the Republic of Bolivia is interested in becoming a member of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

Since the founding of the Organization, Bolivia has promoted the decolonization process, resolutely supported the activities of the Special Committee and complied with United Nations initiatives and decisions. Bolivia attaches particular importance to the work of the Special Committee and has participated actively in the work of the Fourth Committee on which it served as Vice-Chairman in 1992.

In this regard, I should like to request that you, in your capacity as President of the General Assembly, inform the States Members of the United Nations of Bolivia's interest in becoming a member of the Special Committee, and that you have the text of this letter circulated as a document of the fifty-first session of the General Assembly under agenda item 19.

(Signed) Marco A. VIDAURRE
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

97-09182 (E) 080497 080497

UNITED
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STRENGTHENING OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM

Letter dated 7 April 1997 from the Permanent Representative of Solomon Islands to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General*

I have the honour to address the Secretary-General with reference to the letter dated 30 January 1997 from Ambassador Qin Huasun, Permanent Representative of the People's Republic of China to the United Nations (A/52/69).

Recognizing the growing importance of the People's Republic of China, the international community welcomes opportunities for cooperation that would benefit the peoples of the world. Moreover, Solomon Islands has spoken at the United Nations in support of the peaceful reunification of China. How surprising, then, to read the strident language Ambassador Qin Huasun uses to characterize my letter to the Secretary-General of 3 January 1997 (A/51/781). Contentious arguments are unfortunate in diplomacy dealing with so critical an issue as the future of the 21.4 million people of the Republic of China on Taiwan. False allegations do not contribute to the calm and thoughtful process such a complex political problem requires. Contrary to what Ambassador Qin Huasun states, Solomon Islands has not used the forum of the United Nations "to undermine China's sovereignty, territorial integrity and the cause of reunification and to interfere in China's internal affairs". The accusation that Solomon Islands "seriously violated" General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI) as well as the purposes and principles of the Charter could be readily dismissed if the issue at hand - the democratic and peaceful reunification of China - were not so crucial.

* The designations employed in the present letter do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Secretariat of the United Nations concerning the legal status of any country, territory or area, or of its authorities.

The Government of Solomon Islands is committed to meeting the obligatio of the Charter and the resolutions of the General Assembly. We are pledged democracy, human rights and the peaceful settlement of disputes. Solomon Islands does not need to be advised by the People's Republic of China what Member States can or cannot tolerate with respect to the Charter and General Assembly resolutions. Bullying has no place in diplomacy at the United Nati

Ambassador Qin Huasun states that soon "the Chinese Government will res the exercise of sovereignty over Hong Kong, and the concept of 'one country, systems' will turn into a reality". The people of the world will judge the success of the undertaking. His Government, Ambassador Qin Huasun states, " adhere to the basic principle of 'one country, two systems' and the eight-po proposal put forward by President Jiang Zemin on developing the relations between the two sides of the Taiwan Straits and advancing the process of peaceful reunification of the motherland". I am pleased to read this, becau it is the same point I made in my statement of 18 September 1996 before the General Committee of the fifty-first session of the General Assembly introdu the request for the inclusion of an agenda item that would, I stated, have permitted a debate "on how the Republic of China on Taiwan, committed to reunification with the People's Republic of China, could in the interim incr its contribution to the international community through the work of the Unit Nations". I stated, "the leaders of the People's Republic of China and the Republic of China on Taiwan have clearly and publicly committed their Governments to reunification. In an eight-point proposal of 30 January 199 Mr. Jiang Zemin, now President of the People's Republic of China, declared " should strive for the peaceful reunification of the motherland since Chinese should not fight fellow Chinese'. Rejecting the concepts of 'two Chinas' an 'one China, one Taiwan', Mr. Jiang spoke of the 'basic principles of peacefu reunification' and 'one country, two systems'. He called for increasing contacts across the Taiwan Straits and negotiations that would lead to reunification in which Taiwan would 'exercise a high degree of autonomy and enjoy legislative and independent judicial power, including that of final adjudication' and 'may also retain its armed forces and administer its party governmental and military systems by itself'. Mr. Lee Teng-hui, President o the Republic of China, responded with a six-point proposal calling for the pursuit of reunification, strengthening cultural exchanges, expansion of tra relations, peaceful resolution of disputes and the joint safeguarding of democracy and prosperity. The similarities between the two sets of proposal are notable. Of course there are differences, and these would need to be resolved in face-to-face negotiations". Incredibly, Ambassador Qin Huasun h mis-characterized my words as "clamouring in favour of the secessionist activities of the Taiwan authorities".

The Government of Solomon Islands believes that reunification negotiati must be conducted in an atmosphere free of threats and accusations. The Uni Nations could provide considerable assistance through its good offices and, towards that end, Solomon Islands and 15 other countries made the request la September for the inclusion of an appropriate item in the agenda of the fift first session of the General Assembly. Regrettably, the People's Republic o China opposed the request as it has in the past. To delay negotiations to h about the peaceful reunification of China is to risk an increase of tension

across the Taiwan Straits and in the neighbouring countries of east Asia and the south-west Pacific.

I have the honour to request that you have the present letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 48.

(Signed) Rex S. HOROI
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
Permanent Representative of Solomon Islands
to the United Nations

UNITED NATIONS **A**

General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/51/864
7 April 1997

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Fifty-first session
Agenda items 8 and 97 (b)

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK

ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT: SPECIAL SESSION FOR THE PURPOSE OF AN OVERALL REVIEW AND APPRAISAL OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF AGENDA 21

Note by the President of the General Assembly

1. In its resolution 51/181, which was adopted by consensus on 16 December 1996, the General Assembly recognized, inter alia, the important contributions made by major groups, including non-governmental organizations, at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development and in the implementation of its recommendations, and invited the President of the General Assembly, in consultation with Member States, to propose to Member States appropriate modalities for the effective involvement of major groups in the nineteenth special session of the Assembly.

2. On the basis of the mandate given to me by the General Assembly in resolution 51/181 and following consultations with Member States, I have the honour to submit herewith for the consideration of the Assembly the text of a draft decision, which I propose to be considered under agenda item 97 (b), Environment and sustainable development: special session for the purpose of an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of Agenda 21.

3. In order for the General Assembly to take the required action, it will be necessary to reopen consideration of agenda item 97 (b).

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ANNEX

Draft decision

Participation of major groups, including non-governmental organizations, in the nineteenth special session of the General Assembly

The General Assembly, recalling its resolution 51/181 of 16 December 1996, in which it recognized, inter alia, the important contributions made by major groups, including non-governmental organizations, at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, held at Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 3 to 14 June 1992, and in the implementation of its recommendations, and recalling also that in the same resolution it invited the President of the General Assembly, in consultation with Member States, to propose to Member States appropriate modalities for the effective involvement of major groups in the nineteenth special session of the General Assembly:

(a) Decides that major groups, including non-governmental organizations, will be invited to participate in the plenary meeting of the nineteenth special session of the General Assembly in the debate on an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of Agenda 21;[a]

(b) Decides also that major groups, including non-governmental organizations, that cannot be accommodated in the debate on an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of Agenda 21 in the plenary meeting of the nineteenth special session may be invited to address the Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole of the special session;

(c) Invites the President of the General Assembly to extend invitations to representatives of major groups, including non-governmental organizations, to participate in the nineteenth special session of the General Assembly;

(d) Decides that arrangements concerning the participation of major groups, including non-governmental organizations, in the nineteenth special session of the General Assembly will in no way create a precedent for other special sessions of the Assembly.

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[a] Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: Resolutions Adopted by the Conference, resolution 1, annex II.

UNITED NATIONS

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General Assembly
Security Council

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A/51/865
S/1997/288
8 April 1997

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fifty-first session
Agenda item 58
QUESTION OF CYPRUS

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-second year

Letter dated 26 March 1997 from the Permanent Representative of Cyprus to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to draw your attention to new violations of the airspace of the Republic of Cyprus and of the flight information region (FIR) of Nicosia by military aircraft of the Turkish Air Force, recorded on 20 March 1997.

On 20 March 1997, at 0900 hours and 1114 hours, two Turkish military planes, a C-130 and a C-160, flew over the monastery of Ayios Andreas, violating the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus and the Nicosia flight information region, and then exited from Solin Point heading in a south-easterly direction. At 1240 and 1435 hours, the two military aircraft re-entered the FIR of Nicosia from Solin Point and violated the airspace of the Republic, flying over the monastery of Ayios Andreas, and headed in a northerly direction.

Furthermore, on 19 March 1997, a Turkish military aircraft from 1242 to 1330 hours, and two F-16s from 1810 to 1857 hours, both taking part in the Turkish military exercises of Dogú Akdeniz/97, violated the FIR of Nicosia.

Such unauthorized intrusions into the Nicosia flight information region and the airspace of the Republic are in violation of international air traffic rules and seriously endanger civil aviation flights over Cyprus. At the same time, they heighten tension in Cyprus and are in contravention of the provisions of repeated Security Council resolutions on Cyprus, which state that such overflights increase political tension on the island and undermine efforts towards achieving a final settlement.

On behalf of the Government of the Republic of Cyprus, I wish to strongly protest against the new violations of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Cyprus, which are in complete disregard of the Charter of the

United Nations and the relevant decisions of the Organization on the question of Cyprus.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of the present letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 58, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nicos AGATHOCLEOUS
Ambassador, Permanent Representative
of the Republic of Cyprus
to the United Nations

UNITED NATIONS

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General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

A/51/866
S/1997/289
8 April 1997

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fifty-first session
Agenda items 33, 35 and 85
THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST
QUESTION OF PALESTINE
REPORT OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE TO INVESTIGATE ISRAELI PRACTICES AFFECTING THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE AND OTHER ARABS OF THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-second year

Identical letters dated 8 April 1997 from the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and to the President of the Security Council

Today, 8 April 1997, a colonial Jewish settler shot dead a Palestinian civilian, 24-year-old Asem Arafeh, in the city of Al-Khalil (Hebron) without any provocation. The Israeli occupying soldiers, using so-called "rubber bullets", also shot and killed two other Palestinian civilians, and an estimated 100 Palestinians were injured throughout the West Bank today. Yesterday, 7 April 1997, another colonial settler shot two Palestinians in the village of Kharbata, near Ramallah. One of the wounded remains in serious condition. These perilous developments, particularly the terrorist acts committed by the colonials settlers, represent a new phase in both Israel's escalation of oppressive measures and its hostile political attitude.

It is worth mentioning in this regard that the Prime Minister of Israel, Mr. Benjamin Netanyahu, on 3 April 1997, alluded to possible new "Baruch Goldsteins". Goldstein was the terrorist who killed more than 30 Palestinian worshippers in Al-Haram Al-Ibrahimi in Hebron on 25 February 1994. Other colonial settlers have actually established a monument on the tomb of Goldstein in his honour. On its part, Israel, the occupying Power, has never implemented Security Council resolution 904 (1994), which was adopted in the wake of the massacre.

Exacerbating the already extremely dangerous situation, the Prime Minister, at a press conference in Washington, D.C., on 7 April 1997, released a barrage of wild statements, reiterating the Israeli intention to proceed with a new illegal settlement in Jabal Abu Ghneim to the south of Occupied East Jerusalem. Moreover, the Prime Minister asserted that Jerusalem is an "Israeli city", in full defiance of international law and relevant Security Council resolutions, as well as in contempt of every State Member of the United Nations, none of which has recognized Israel's proclaimed sovereignty over Occupied East Jerusalem. Such statements also make a mockery of the agreements reached between the parties to negotiate the future of Jerusalem. Furthermore, when the Prime Minister states that the occupied territory is "our land", he is on the verge of negating the mutual recognition between the Palestinian and Israeli sides and the crux of the whole peace process.

The serious deterioration of the situation on the ground and the increasing threats to the Middle East peace process resulting from illegal and detrimental Israeli actions and policies reaffirm the need for the speedy convening of the emergency special session of the General Assembly, which has been requested by the Arab Group, to take the necessary actions, including the appropriate collective measures by Member States.

I would be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of the present letter distributed as an official document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 33, 35 and 85, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Dr. Nasser AL-KIDWA
Permanent Observer of Palestine
to the United Nations

UNITED NATIONS **A**

General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/51/867
9 April 1997

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Fifty-first session
Agenda item 166

ELECTION OF JUDGES OF THE INTERNATIONAL TRIBUNAL FOR THE PROSECUTION OF PERSONS RESPONSIBLE FOR SERIOUS VIOLATIONS OF INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW COMMITTED IN THE TERRITORY OF THE FORMER YUGOSLAVIA SINCE 1991

Letter dated 8 April 1997 from the President of the Security Council addressed to the President of the General Assembly

I have the honour to transmit the text of resolution 1104 (1997), adopted unanimously by the Security Council at its 3763rd meeting, on 8 April 1997.

Resolution 1104 (1997) reads as follows:

"The Security Council,

"Recalling its resolutions 808 (1993) of 22 February 1993 and 827 (1993) of 25 May 1993,

"Having decided to consider the nominations for judges of the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia received by the Secretary-General by 13 March 1997,

"Forwards the following nominations to the General Assembly in accordance with article 13 (d) of the Statute of the International Tribunal:

Mr. Masoud Mohamed Al-Amri (Qatar)
Mr. George Randolph Tissa Dias Bandaranayake (Sri Lanka)
Mr. Antonio Cassese (Italy)
Mr. Babiker Zain Elabideen Elbashir (Sudan)
Mr. Saad Saood Jan (Pakistan)

Mr. Claude Jorda (France)
Mr. Adolphus Godwin Karibi-Whyte (Nigeria)
Mr. Richard George May (United Kingdom)
Ms. Gabrielle Kirk McDonald (United States)
Ms. Florence Ndepele Mwachande Mumba (Zambia)
Dr. Rafael Nieto Navia (Colombia)
Dr. Daniel David Ntanda Nsereko (Uganda)
Dr. Elizabeth Odio Benito (Costa Rica)
Dr. Fouad Abdel-Moneim Riad (Egypt)
Mr. Almiro Simões Rodrigues (Portugal)
Mr. Mohamed Shahabuddeen (Guyana)
Prof. Jan Skupinski (Poland)
Prof. Wang Tieya (China)
Mr. Lal Chand Vohrah (Malaysia)".

(Signed) António MONTEIRO
President of the Security Council

UNITED NATIONS

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General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.
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A/51/868
S/1997/295
8 April 1997
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fifty-first session
Agenda item 33
THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-second year

Letter dated 8 April 1997 from the Permanent Representative of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government and further to our earlier letters concerning Israel's attacks on southern Lebanon and the Western Bekaa and the arbitrary practices against the civilian inhabitants in which it engages on a daily basis, I have the honour to notify you of the series of such incidents that took place during March 1997.

1 March 1997

At 1040 hours Israeli warplanes overflew the Western Bekaa area, focusing on Mashgharah, Ayn al-Tinah, Maydun, Zillaya and Qilya, without carrying out any attacks.

At 0835 hours Israeli warplanes attacked outlying areas of Ayn Bu Siwar and the Mlita and Jabal Safi hills in two successive waves.

3 March 1997

At 2120 hours the environs of the abandoned Lebanese Army barracks in Nabatiyah al-Fawqa came under artillery fire from Israeli positions in the border strip.

5 March 1997

At 1320 hours Israeli warplanes overflew Sidon and the nearby camps at high altitude.

7 March 1997

At 1115 hours Israeli warplanes overflew Sidon at high altitude.

At 1330 hours outlying areas of Jba' and Ayn Bu Siwar and the Jabal Safi highlands came under Israeli artillery fire.

8 March 1997

At 0615 hours the hills to the south of Mashgharah and Ayn al-Tinah, the Jabal Abi Rashid highlands, the Jabbur pool and outlying areas of Qilya, Zilla and Libbaya in Western Bekaa district came under Israeli artillery fire.

At 1140 hours outlying areas of Dallafah, Qilya, Zillaya and Libbaya came under artillery fire from Israeli positions.

At 1600 hours outlying areas of Jba', Arabsalim and Ayn Bu Siwar and the Mlita and Jabal Safi hills came under Israeli artillery fire. This was accompanied by low-altitude overflights of the area by Israeli warplanes. The also attacked outlying areas of Jba', in two waves, and fired two air-to-surfa missiles. Najwa Husayn Khafajah and Husayn Mustafa Khafajah were hurt in the bombardment.

9 March 1997

At 1400 hours outlying areas of Arabsalim, Luwayzah, Jarju', Ayn Bu Siwar and Jba' and the Mlita and Jabal Safi hills came under Israeli artillery fire.

At 1630 hours the hills to the south of Mashgharah and Ayn al-Tinah and t Jabal Ra'id highlands came under Israeli artillery fire.

At 1720 hours Israeli warplanes attacked Jabal Ayn al-Tinah, firing four air-to-surface missiles in an attack that lasted some seven minutes. Israeli warplanes also overflew Sidon at medium altitude.

10 March 1997

At 1000 hours Israeli warplanes overflew Sidon at high altitude.

At 1400 hours the north-western section of Jarju' received bursts of snip fire from Israeli positions at Tallat Sajd, and the home of Hatim Muhammad al-Shami was hit.

At 1400 hours an explosive charge that had been placed inside a vehicle exploded on the Markaba-Hula road in the Bi'r al-Maslibat locality, Marj Uyun district. The vehicle was destroyed and damage was caused to the home of Husay Shahrur.

At 1425 hours outlying areas of Majdal Silm, Qabrikha, Tulin, Sawwanah, Frun and Ghanduriyah came under Israeli artillery fire.

11 March 1997

At 2150 hours Israeli warplanes overflew the Harat al-Na'imah and Damur hills and were opposed by ground-based anti-aircraft batteries belonging to the Lebanese Army.

At 2210 hours Israeli warplanes overflew Sidon at high altitude.

12 March 1997

At 0930 hours outlying areas of Arabsalim and Jarju', the Mlita and Jabal Safi hills and areas along Nab' al-Tasah came under Israeli artillery fire. This was accompanied by overflights of the Nabatiyah area by Israeli warplanes.

At 1230 hours outlying areas of Jarju', Jba' and Ayn Bu Siwar, the Mlita and Jabal Safi hills and areas along the Zahrani River in the Iqlim al-Tuffah area came under Israeli artillery fire.

At 1230 hours there were clashes between members of the Lebanese national resistance and Israeli and Lahad forces in the Jabal al-Rayhan area, Jazzin district, in which weapons of all types were used.

14 March 1997

At 1330 hours outlying areas of Tulin, Qabrikha, Sawwanah, Majdal Silm, Shaqra, Bra'shit, Tibnin, Ayta al-Jabal, Haris, Kafra and Yatar came under Israeli artillery fire.

At 1530 hours there were clashes between members of the Lebanese national resistance and Israeli and Lahad forces in the Jabal al-Rayhan area, Jazzin district, in which weapons of all types were used. They stopped at 1700 hours.

At 1645 hours outlying areas of Jba', Ayn Bu Siwar and Jarju' and areas along the Zahrani River came under artillery fire from Israeli positions inside the border strip.

16 March 1997

At 2200 hours Israeli warplanes overflew Sidon at low altitude.

17 March 1997

At 0600 hours outlying areas of Majdal Zun came under Israeli artillery fire.

19 March 1997

At 2130 hours Israeli warplanes overflew Sidon at low altitude. They also overflew the Nabatiyah and Iqlim al-Tuffah areas at low altitude, carrying out mock attacks and dropping heat balloons.

20 March 1997

At 0900 hours Israeli forces entered the town of Arnun in Nabatiyah district. They arrested a number of residents and took them to an unknown destination. They subsequently released four of them after interrogation, and three others remain in detention.

At 0915 hours four Israeli warplanes attacked the Nahr al-Asi locality ne Ayn al-Zarqa' in Baalbek district. They also attacked the Nahr al-Asi - Hirmi area, causing material damage but leaving no casualties.

At 1820 hours outlying areas of Qilya, Libbaya and Zillaya in Western Bek district came under Israeli artillery fire.

22 March 1997

At 1400 hours there was an explosion in the home of Kamil Nimr Abu Samra Ayshiyah and he was killed.

25 March 1997

At 1930 hours Israeli warplanes overflew the Iqlim al-Tuffah area at low altitude and carried out a number of mock attacks over Jba' and Arabsalim and the Mlita and Jabal Safi hills.

At 2210 hours Israeli warplanes overflew Sidon and the nearby camps.

At 2220 hours Israeli warplanes overflew the Sa'diyat coast, Damur and Na'imah.

26 March 1997

At 1033 hours Israeli warplanes overflew Baalbek. They also overflew the Nabatiyah area at low altitude and, at 1330 hours, they overflew Tyre.

27 March 1997

At 0530 hours the environs of Nabatiyah al-Fawqa near the abandoned Lebanese Army barracks came under Israeli artillery fire.

At 1000 hours Israeli warplanes overflew the Iqlim al-Tuffah area.

30 March 1997

At 1100 hours Israeli warplanes overflew Nabatiyah at high altitude. At 1400 hours they overflew the Iqlim al-Tuffah area at low altitude, carrying ou mock attacks. This was accompanied by an Israeli artillery bombardment of outlying areas of Jarju' and Arabsalim and the Mlita and Jabal Safi hills.

31 March 1997

At 1110 hours Israeli warplanes overflew the Tyre area at medium altitude.

At 1120 hours Israeli warplanes overflew Nabatiyah at medium altitude and then overflew Sidon and the nearby camps at high altitude.

The Lebanese Government strongly condemns the continued Israeli occupation and these fresh attacks and arbitrary practices inflicted on the Lebanese population, which have left a number of casualties and have caused further serious damage to property.

Like previous attacks, this new series is in flagrant violation of the sovereignty and independence of Lebanon and constitutes a breach of the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, of international law and of basic human rights.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 33, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Samir MOUBARAK
Ambassador
Permanent Representative